NMCI Waiver Process for Acquisition Programs

LtCol Brent Smith
C4I, SE&I

Background

- MARADMIN 473/01: ***IT Procurement Approval Process***
- Designates HQMC C4I as the final approval authority for IT-related procurements greater than 25K
- Delegates approval authority to major commands, including MCSC, for purchases less than 25K.
- Dropped references to acquisitions programs listed in previous guidance (MARADMIN 267/00).
- Encourages participation by comptrollers.

MARADMIN 473/01: *IT Procurement Approval Process (continued)*

- Differentiates processes between systems procured for acquisition programs and those procured for day-to-day operations:
  - Requires MCSC to provide HQMC CIO with a review MCHS procurements done for Programs of Record prior to Milestone Review or at least annually (Paragraph 2).
  - Sets out a different procedure for routine purchases by local CIOs (Paragraph 3).
  - Both methods constitute a sufficient review process for MCHS purchases.

Current MCSC Guidance

- Command Policy Letter No. 10-01
  - Establishes procurement guidance in NMCI era.
  - Confuses responsibilities between the CIO, Deputy CIO, Director of Contracts, and Deputy Commander for C4I.
  - Does not distinguish IT purchases made as part of an acquisition program from those intended to support local operations.
  - Impact is a redundant and inappropriate review by the MCSC CIO of MCHS purchases for acquisition programs.

RESULTS

- Policy has been misinterpreted and interferes with the command's DoD 5000.1 approval authority.
- Policy also causes unnecessary delays in purchases due to redundant review.

Recommendations

- C4I SE&I and PM MCHS coordinate an improved review policy with MCSC CIO and A/C Contracts.

Backup

Excerpts from DoD 5000.1

1.1. An Acquisition Program is a directed, funded effort that provides a new, improved, or continuing materiel, weapon or information system or service capability in response to an approved need.

1.2. The Defense Acquisition Executive (DAE) is the USD(AT&L) who has responsibility for supervising the Defense Acquisition System. The DAE takes precedence on all acquisition matters after the Secretary and the Deputy Secretary.

1.3. The Milestone Decision Authority (MDA) is the designated individual with overall responsibility for a program. The MDA shall have the authority to approve entry of an acquisition program into the next phase of the acquisition process and shall be accountable for cost, schedule, and performance reporting to higher authority, including Congressional reporting.

1.4. The Program Manager (PM) is the designated individual with responsibility for and authority to accomplish program objectives for development, production, and sustainment to meet the user's operational

INTERIM DEFENSE ACQUISITION GUIDEBOOK

October 30, 2002

(Formerly the DoD 5000.2-R, dated April 5, 2002)

AP1.1.2. Each DoD Component shall establish an internal C4ISP management process that supports preparation and review of C4ISPs, leading to C4ISP approval by a designated DoD Component official. This process shall include coordination with all affected DoD Components. Comments raised during C4ISP review shall be resolved prior to approval. Each DoD Component shall designate a principal point of contact (POC) to represent the DoD Component on C4ISP policy and procedural matters.

Approval of C4ISPs. Following satisfactory resolution of outstanding issues, the official designated by the DoD Component shall approve the C4ISP. Copies of all approved C4ISPs shall be submitted electronically to the Director, OASD(C3I) Program Analysis and Integration (PA&I), with the relevant Acquisition Decision Memorandum. This includes both approved C4ISPs that have undergone DoD-wide review led by OASD(C3I), and approved C4ISPs reviewed in accordance with DoD Component procedures